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INFO RUEHKK/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 002395

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ELA
NSC STAFF FOR AGUIRRE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/30/2029

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KDEM](#) [EG](#)

SUBJECT: EGYPT: POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRATIONS SPARK CONSTITUTIONAL DEBATE REF: CAIRO 2279 Classified By: Economic-Political Minister-Counse

[11](#). Key Points: -- (SBU) Former IEEA Chairman Mohamed El Baradei's December 4 statement (ref A) outlining needed constitutional reforms for him

[12](#). (C) Comment: El Baradei and Moussa's comments on constitutional reform clearly struck a chord with the Egyptian opposition. While the detail

[13](#). (SBU) In discussing potential presidential bids, El Baradei and Moussa both focus on the obstacles to independent candidates created by Art

[14](#). (SBU) Article 76 establishes a second mechanism for presidential eligibility. Political parties "whose members have obtained at least one s

[15](#). (SBU) In the interview with Al Masry Al Youm, Moussa also criticized Article 77, which establishes a six year term for the presidency, but

[16](#). (SBU) Opposition groups, including the Muslim Brotherhood and the April 6 movement, have added their voices to the call for reform of const

[17](#). (SBU) Following a December 26 meeting of the NDP's Policies Council, Gamal Mubarak addressed calls for constitutional reform. Mubarak said